

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 18440 061126Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-02
INR-10 L-03 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 SES-02 SAA-01
SSM-05 /094 W

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O 061117Z AUG 78
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2339
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION SINAI
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS CAIRO 18440

DEPARTMENT PASS SECRETARY

JERUSALEM FOR USDEL

ALEXANDRIA FOR AMBASSADOR EILTS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFPR OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R.) US EG IS XF

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S MIDDLE EAST TRIP REMAINS FOCUS OF

- EGYPTIAN PRESS

SUMMARY. ON EVE OF SECRETARY'S ARRIVAL IN EGYPT, PRESS
CONTINUES TO HIGHLIGHT VISIT AS OF DECISIVE IMPORTANCE IN
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PAGE 02 CAIRO 18440 061126Z

DETERMINING WHETHER SADAT'S INITIATIVE WILL STAY ALIVE.
EDITORIALS CONTINUE TO STRESS THAT U.S. MUST NOW PRESENT
NEW PROPOSALS OR STATE UNEQUIVOCALLY ITS OWN POSITION ON
KEY ISSUES; TIME HAS PASSED FOR U.S. ROLE AS "POSTMAN"
AND "CHEERLEADER" FROM THE SIDELINES. END SUMMARY.

1. ALL CAIRO PAPERS AUGUST 6 REPORT SECRETARY'S ARRIVAL IN

ISRAEL AND SCHEDULED TALKS IN CAIRO AS FRONT PAGE STORY, EMPHASIZING CRITICAL IMPORTANCE OF TRIP FOR MOMENTUM OF PEACE PROCESS.

2. AHARAM'S BANNER HEADLINE SPECULATES THAT SECRETARY MAY CARRY WITH HIM NEW PROPOSALS TO BREAK PRESENT DEADLOCK. BODY OF ARTICLE CITES "INFORMED SOURCES" IN U.S. AS SAYING THAT VANCE HAD PREVIOUSLY HOPED NOT TO HAVE TO PRESENT AMERICAN PROPOSALS BEFORE OCTOBER; NOW, HOWEVER, U.S. REALIZES IT MAY BE NECESSARY TO ADVANCE SUBSTANTIVE PROPOSALS AFTER THIS TRIP. SAME ARTICLE ANTICIPATES THAT SECRETARY WILL CLARIFY THREE AREAS:

- -- U.S. POLICY ON KEY SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES, NOW THAT EFFORTS FOR PEACE HAVE DEADLOCKED BECAUSE OF ISRAEL'S REFUSAL TO WITHDRAW FROM OCCUPIED ARAB LANDS AND RECOGNIZE PALESTINIAN RIGHTS;

- -- PROPOSED U.S. STEPS TO DEAL WITH THIS SITUATION, INCLUDING WHATEVER AMERICAN IDEAS MAY HAVE CRYSTALIZED IN THE PAST FEW DAYS;

- -- AN EXPLANATION OF THE ISRAELI POSITION IN LIGHT OF THE SECRETARY'S MOST RECENT TALKS WITH BEGIN.

3. AHARAM, AKBAR AND GOMHURIYYA USE THEIR MAIN EDITORIALS TO COMMENT ON VANCE MISSION. THEMES ARE UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 CAIRO 18440 061126Z

SIMILAR TO THOSE EMPHASIZED THROUGHOUT THE PAST WEEK: U.S. HAS OBLIGATION TO MOVE PEACE PROCESS FORWARD BY PRESENTING PROPOSALS OF ITS OWN RATHER THAN ACTING AS POSTMAN; ISRAEL WANTS NEGOTIATIONS IN ORDER TO PLAY FOR TIME RATHER THAN MOVE TOWARDS PEACE; AND EGYPT HAS OFFERED ISRAEL PEACE AND SECURITY BUT CANNOT COMPROMISE ON TERRITORY AND SOVEREIGNTY. AHARAM EDITORIAL MAINTAINS THAT U.S. ADMINISTRATION IS UNDER DOMESTIC PRESSURE FROM ISRAEL'S SUPPORTERS TO REMAIN A CHEER-LEADER FROM THE SIDELINES RATHER THAN ACT AS A "CATALYST" THAT WOULD PROMOTE ESTABLISHMENT OF A JUST AND BALANCED MIDDLE EAST PEACE. EILTS

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED SECRETARY.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CAIRO18440
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780322-0358
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From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780893/aaaaczst.tel
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Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1823295
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY'S MIDDLE EAST TRIP REMAINS FOCUS OF - EGYPTIAN PRESS SUMMARY. ON EVE OF SECRETARY'S ARRIVAL IN EGYPT
TAGS: PEPR, OVIP, SOPN, US, EG, IS, XF, (VANCE, CYRUS R)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/fd711d68-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014